

Press release, Kiev the 13th of March 2012

The Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Municipal Economy of Ukraine and the Swedish company, Swedish Water Experience AB have today signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Waste water solutions in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian wastewater market is estimated to be worth €10 billion over a five year period in order to meet the EU environmental standards.

The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to organize the rehabilitation process of new and existing water and wastewater treatment plants in selected cities of Ukraine using the Swedish model. The ultimate goal is to meet environmental standards using the outmost energy effective technology and operation of the plants including production of renewable energy.

Co-operation projects and the rehabilitation process have already started with prioritized cities like Zhytomyr, Horlivka and Dmytrov.

The Swedish model is characterized by a step-by-step approach, which utilizes the owner's infrastructure at its best. The result is then a very cost effective plant suited for the actual demands and location.

The Swedish Water Experience AB is an alliance between the major players within the Swedish Water Industry, Malmberg Water AB, Läckby Water AB and Nordic Water AB.

The name "Swedish Water Experience" has been selected as the brand name for future activities. The name reflects what have been learnt during the last 75 years when the Swedish Water Industry together with municipalities and universities have developed one of the best working water and wastewater system in the world.

The next step for Swedish Water Experience is to start up a local entity in Ukraine for the project implementation.

The aim is to become a major long term player within the water business in Ukraine.

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Background information

Swedish water purification methods have evolved since the 1940s, from sludge separation to biological treatment in the 1960s. Phosphorus removal was implemented in the 1970s, shortly followed by a combined treatment that saved both energy and space. A specific nitrogen treatment was introduced in 1980s. This gradual development of the Swedish wastewater process has led to a very efficient process, known to protect the beautiful Swedish waters, a compact process and a cost saving construction process.

The success behind Sweden's knowhow and management experience in water purification can be explained by its strict legal environmental framework and the longstanding cooperation that has existed among the companies that provide management, services and construction.

Swedish municipalities have played a crucial role in the development of new technologies and implementation of purification methods. The municipalities and the water industry started working closely together on different water purification technologies as early as the 1960s. This relationship has enabled Swedish companies to try new methods that would not have been possible without municipality support. This, in turn, has led to new and better purification processes that provide Swedes with cleaner water, ideal for fishing and swimming.

The Swedish working model is characterized by a step-by-step approach that utilizes the buyer's current infrastructure at its best. Swedish project managers offer a creative and engaging partnership with the buyer and implement a working environment where results, testing and evaluation and finally construction follow set budgets and desires.

The working process is introduced by an administrative phase including a feasibility study and financing. This is followed by a practical phase and finalized by the actual construction of the plant. At the construction phase, an initial full-scale installation is set up followed by a step-by-step construction until the actual full-scale installation is complete.

Swedish treatment plants are compact designed and use 50% less space, have low energy consumption and give a small environmental footprints.